

**Law Enforcement Division
Bi-Weekly Field Report
1/11/09 – 1/24/09**

DISTRICT 1

COs Jason Wicklund and Dave Painter conducted follow up interviews on a case from the firearm deer season. The investigation revealed a subject had borrowed the tag of another to tag a small buck he had shot. Enforcement action was taken.

Area 2 COs conducted a group snowmobile patrol in the Lake Gogebic area. Numerous contacts were made and enforcement action taken for careless operation of a snowmobile, registration violations, failure to purchase trail permits and illegal operation on the roadway.

COs Dennis Gast, Matt Eberly, and Sgt. Steve Burton worked a snowmobile patrol in Calumet. Twenty snowmobiles were checked in five hours on the trail. The weather was very frigid and kept many at home. Two operators were found to be missing trail permits and valid registrations. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Dave Miller issued several snowmobile tickets in Ontonagon County this weekend. Traffic was slow, the weather was frigid, and many snowmobilers opted for the warmth of their homes and hotels instead of the trails. The few that ventured out found freshly groomed trails with little traffic.

CO Dennis Gast checked two Wisconsin anglers on Lake Gogebic on Sunday, and found them fishing with a total of eight lines. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Matthew Eberly and Dennis Gast continue to work complaints on the Chassell Trail between Chassell and Houghton. Complaints continue to come in from landowners about high speed operation and by snowmobilers for slow trail conditions.

While returning from a state land patrol on the Chassell trail, Area 1 COs found four unattended tip-ups on Portage Lake. The tip-ups were seized and later returned to the owner, with two tickets issued for no names on tip-ups and unattended lines.

CO Dennis Gast caught up to a group of fast moving snowmobiles who failed to stop at a county road crossing. CO Gast intercepted the group a mile down the road and issued a ticket to the lead operator. When CO Gast asked him why he didn't stop for the stop sign, he said it was because "he was going too fast", and did not see it.

COs David Miller and Brett Gustafson were called to a car-moose crash near Parent Lake in Baraga County. The cow moose was struck by a F350 Ford pickup. Both the moose and the truck were total losses, but no human injuries occurred. The moose was turned over to Wildlife Division.

CO Dave Painter stopped to talk with an ORV operator in Crystal Falls. The operator stated he was just getting it running and asked if he was operating legally. CO Painter advised the operator he was legal and asked what his name was. The subject gave his name and stated he was new to the area. As the ORV operator left, he fishtailed through the next stop sign he came to and sped off down the road. CO Painter caught up to the subject and checked further into his identity. The subject was identified by CO Painter as the same subject who has been ticketed twice in the past few months for ORV related violations. The operator was also operating on a suspended license and lodged in the county jail.

CO Grant Emery worked snowmobile activity in the Watersmeet area. Three snowmobile operators were ticketed for failing to register their snowmobiles.

CO Grant Emery contacted a group of bobcat hunters who were just coming out of the woods. A check of their dogs and licenses revealed a Wisconsin resident hunting bobcat without a license.

COs Dave Painter and Jason Wicklund conducted follow up interviews regarding a tagging violation from deer season. The COs contacted a subject whom they believed was involved in the violation. The interviewed subject had the same name as the person they were looking for, and was not involved in the initial complaint. However, as a result of interviewing the first subject, the COs came up with another case of an illegally taken deer.

DISTRICT 2

COs Kyle Publiski and Kevin Postma conducted an ice fishing patrol in the Munuscong and Cedarville areas. Fishing was slow so one pair of anglers undertook other activities to distract themselves. The influence of the illegal substance distracted them so much that they didn't see the COs approaching until it was too late. Skillful interviewing resulted in admissions; warrants are being sought.

COs Reid Roeske and John Wenzel observed a deer trap in a back yard next to an excessive amount of deer feed. Upon investigation it was determined that the trap was open and had bait inside. The trap was seized and a ticket was issued for excessive feed. Warrants are pending on the illegal trap.

Sgt. Darryl Shann, CO John Wenzel and CO Reid Roeske conducted a group snowmobile patrol in Delta County. The patrol included checking past problem areas of hunting violations, the ice races west of Gladstone, fishing activity on Little Bay DeNoc as well as snowmobile activity. A few tickets were issued for no registration and trail permits on snowmobiles.

DISTRICT 3

COs worked the January elk hunt, responding to complaints, checking and assisting elk hunters and checking kill sites.

CO Matt Theunick and Sgt. Greg Drogowski responded to a call from a snowmobiler in distress in a remote area of the Pigeon River Country (PRC) State Forest. The snowmobiler, who was diabetic, had gotten his snowmobile stuck in a creek, got very wet and was attempting to walk out to a road. The COs solicited the assistance of other snowmobilers they had just given a warning to for a minor violation. The COs and volunteer snowmobilers located the subject, got him warmed up and retrieved his snowmobile from the creek. The illegal snowmobile operation in the PRC was addressed and the subject was able to leave under his own power.

CO Eric Bottorff responded to an illegal burning complaint which involved appliances, furniture and other debris being burned. The subject was ticketed for illegal disposal of solid waste.

CO Eric Bottorff patrolled the PRC and found several locations where snowmobiles have been operating in prohibited areas. Future patrols to address the issue are being planned.

CO Michael Feagan received a RAP complaint on Burt Lake about anglers who were using too many lines. CO Feagan conducted two patrols and issued three tickets to anglers who were using four, five and six lines each. Several warnings were also given for fishing with three lines and other minor violations.

COs Joe Molnar and Bill Webster worked the snowmobile trails and wrote several tickets. One of the incidents involved two snowmobile operators who blew through a stop sign past the COs. The subjects also disobeyed other yield and stop signs and tickets were issued to both for careless operation of a snowmobile.

CO Joe Molnar, while patrolling on his snowmobile, issued two snowmobile tickets for unregistered sleds and no trail permits. CO Molnar checked Lake Avalon where splake are the favorite target. Upon checking two anglers, he located two undersized splake. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Bill Webster, along with newly assigned COs Mark DePew and Matt Theunick, worked a fishing patrol on Long Lake, Grand Lake, the Narrows and Lake Esau, where a fishing tournament took place on the weekend. The COs reported very cold weather conditions and over 300 anglers out enjoying themselves, but slow fishing success. The COs wrote tickets for fishing without a license, unattended lines and possession of marijuana.

COs Bill Webster and Brian Engelhard worked a fish patrol on Hubbard Lake in Alcona County. CO Webster checked an angler who stated he had caught three walleye. The

angler only produced two walleye when asked to see his catch. CO Webster investigated further and located the third walleye which just happened to be undersized. CO Webster then issued a ticket for possessing an undersized walleye.

CO Carl Vanderwall responded to an angler harassment complaint on Walloon Lake. One angler set up in a location that another angler felt was too close. An argument ensued, threats and broken tip-ups followed. CO Vanderwall arrested one of the subjects on a two count angler harassment warrant.

CO Carl Vanderwall contacted a tree farmer in Emmet County who complained about snowmobilers trespassing on the tree farm and running over his trees. He also stated they were impossible to catch because they were here and gone. It only took CO Vanderwall 15 minutes to apprehend the first group of trespassers. Tickets were written for operating snowmobiles in a reforested area and trespass. The farmer was pleased with the response and action of the conservation officers.

CO Steve Speigl observed several snowmobiles operating illegally on a highway in Antrim County. He attempted to stop the subjects who fled the scene at a high rate of speed. With the assistance of a local deputy, he tracked the operators to a bar several miles away and tickets were written.

CO Duane Budreau received a four count warrant on a subject who was involved in poaching 10 to 30 deer this past fall. The case involved several juveniles who would drive around and shoot deer at night with a .22. Several firearms were seized along with deer and antlers. A preliminary count indicates there may be as many as 50 poached deer.

CO Andrea Albert patrolled in Otsego County during the January controlled elk hunt. During this patrol she observed a truck parked in a field ahead of her. While watching the truck, CO Albert saw a rifle come out the passenger side window and two shots were fired at a herd of elk standing in a wooded area. The driver and shooter were arrested for various violations. No elk were harmed during that incident.

DISTRICT 4

CO Steve Converse, Manistee County received information that a subject had purchased his deer hunting license after he killed an eight point buck. Following up on that lead, CO Converse obtained a confession from the subject who advised that he took the deer and bought his license later in the day. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Carla Soper, Manistee County, worked a snowmobile patrol on Portage Lake and found numerous snowmobile and ORV operators without helmets or registrations. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Carla Soper, Manistee County received disposition on an illegal burn case which resulted in the subject paying \$1000 in fines and costs.

CO Mike Wells was patrolling in Newaygo County when an ORV appeared on the road ahead of him. There were two subjects on the ORV at the time. Upon seeing the patrol vehicle the ORV fled. After a short chase, CO Wells caught up with the ORV as it became stuck in a snow bank. The two subjects who had been riding ran into the woods. CO Wells tracked footprints to a house where he found the passenger. The man admitted he had been on the ORV and told CO Wells who the driver was. The driver had an outstanding warrant. CO Wells contacted the driver the next day and the subject admitted he had fled due to his warrant and would not surrender if he had to go to jail. Warrants have been issued for felony flee and elude a police officer.

CO Mike Wells was checking anglers on a Newaygo County lake when he came upon a subject fishing with five lines. When the CO asked him for his fishing license the man presented a license which belonged to his girlfriend. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Sam Koscinski observed two snowmobiles operating side by side drag racing down the snowmobile trail in Wexford County. The CO had to pull off the trail to avoid being hit. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Sean Kehoe ticketed a nonresident from Wisconsin for fishing with a resident fishing license on Fife Lake in Grand Traverse County.

CO Mike Bomay received information that children who were playing on an island in the Muskegon River had discovered an abandoned aluminum boat. When CO Bomay investigated, he recognized the boat as one that had been stolen from retired CO Bob Smith's dock. The registration numbers had been removed and the HIN number had been tampered with. CO Bomay called retired CO Smith who was able to describe the boat which had been missing since the summer of 2008. The boat was returned.

CO Jim Espinoza, Mason County was working an ongoing ORV complaint when he witnessed a subject disregard a stop sign while operating illegally on the roadway. The subject was also operating against the flow of traffic and was not wearing a helmet. Enforcement action was taken.

Working a group snowmobile patrol with the Lake County Sheriff Department deputies, COs Brian Brosky and Angie Greenway issued 20 citations and lodged five subjects for suspended operations and failing to stop.

COs Sam Koscinski and Steve Converse, along with an officer with the US Federal Forest Service, patrolled the snowmobile trails in the Wexford County area. Several tickets were issued for registration and trail permit violations and careless operation. Several tickets included snowmobilers who disregarded stop signs.

CO Mike Borkovich had two subjects on snowmobiles flee from him in Leelanau County. CO Borkovich tracked down the two subjects, who were 13 years old. The juveniles told the CO they were scared when they saw him because one was operating without a

safety certificate and the other did not have a trail permit on his machine. Contact was made with the juveniles' parents.

An 18 year old male from Cadillac died from injuries suffered in a snowmobile accident in Wexford County. The subject failed to yield at a road intersection and hit a tree. Speed and alcohol are believed to have been factors in the accident.

CO Justin Vanderlinde ticketed several individuals for set lines on a Benzie County lake. CO Vanderlinde also arrested a subject operating a snowmobile for a second offense alcohol violation. The subject attempted to flee the area upon seeing the CO, but ended up stuck in the snow next to a creek.

CO Jair Kollasch contacted a subject and two teenage boys ice fishing on Lake Mitchell in Wexford County. The subjects had an undersized pike and were fishing with too many lines. The adult was ticketed for the undersized pike and a verbal warning was given for the too many lines.

DISTRICT 5

COs Matt Liestenfeltz, Murray Cherry, Chris Bowen, Joel Lundberg, John Huspen, Brian Engelhard, and Chuck McPherson worked the two weekends of Tip-Up Town encountering numerous violations for trail permits, registration, careless operation of snowmobile, and one LEIN arrest.

CO Jason McCullough ticketed a subject for cutting wood illegally on state land. The subject had previously been ticketed by CO McCullough for the same offense.

While patrolling state land on snowmobiles, COs Jason McCullough and Steve Lockwood located two snowmobiles that had been reported stolen. The sleds had been hidden on state land. The investigation is ongoing.

COs Tami Pullen and Becky Hopkins responded to a complaint regarding subjects who were hunting without wearing hunter orange. The COs walked into the area where the hunters were reported to be hunting and followed tracks to three different hunters not wearing hunter orange. Tickets were issued.

While patrolling state land on his snowmobile, CO Brian Olsen came upon two subjects cutting wood illegally. Tickets were issued.

CO Brian Olsen stopped a subject who was operating a snowmobile with an expired registration. Upon contact, CO Olsen determined the operator had a suspended license. CO Olsen had ticketed the subject previously for the same offense. A further check revealed the subject had a warrant for his arrest. The subject was arrested and lodged in the county jail for the various offenses.

DISTRICT 6

CO Daniel Lee was observing anglers on the Saginaw River when he watched two anglers catch a walleye. When the subjects packed up to leave, the CO approached to check the fish. When the anglers saw the CO they stopped and started to rearrange their sled. Upon contact, the anglers said they hadn't even gotten one bite all day. The CO quickly located the undersized walleye, and found one of the subjects to be fishing without a license and with outstanding warrants.

CO Robert Hobkirk checked an angler ice fishing in Caseville Harbor who had an over limit of perch in his possession (61). Enforcement action was taken. He also issued a ticket for an unregistered snowmobile.

CO Robert Hobkirk signed a warrant in Sanilac County for recreational trespass and taking game from a motor vehicle for a pheasant hunter who was shooting from the roadway this past opening day.

While checking anglers on the Saginaw River, CO Dan Lee was impressed with the numbers and size of the fish caught. Most anglers had several fish and many were in the 20 inch range. One angler had a five gallon bucket with several fish large enough that the tails were hanging out. Upon further inspection, it was found that these fish were covering up a 14 inch walleye as well. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jay Person observed a snowmobile being operated illegally down the shoulder of a state highway. Upon stopping the snowmobile, the CO found an adult male driving the machine with his 5 year old son sitting in front of him. The adult male had a helmet but no eye protection and the 5 year old had a stocking hat on with no helmet. As the CO exited the patrol vehicle to make contact, he noticed the reading of the outside temperature was only nine degrees. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Chad Foerster was patrolling the Saginaw River in Bay City when he observed several ice shanties a considerable distance away from the rest of the "small community of fishermen." After several hours of observation, the CO contacted the anglers and found one of them frantically pushing short walleyes back through the hole. Unfortunately all of the walleye returned to the surface where the CO was able to retrieve them. Enforcement action was taken.

Lt. Ron Utt and COs Chad Foerster and Jeremy Payne investigated an individual who brought a bobcat into the office to be sealed. The condition of the bobcat did not match with the individual's story. After a short interview and presentation of the facts, he admitted to the COs that he was lying and told the truth. The illegally taken bobcat was seized and enforcement action was taken.

CO Chad Foerster investigated a call received through local 911 of a snowmobile that had just gone through the ice on the Saginaw River. The CO was the first law enforcement officer on scene and found the operator, a 16 year old male, shivering from

the cold water and warming in the ambulance. The owners were able to retrieve the snowmobile the next day using a makeshift grappling hook and come-a-longs. The operator advised that he would not be operating on frozen water any more.

COs Vicki Goss and Ken Lowell inspected several taxidermists resulting in warrants for two individuals who shot deer and then purchased their licenses.

While patrolling the game area, CO Phil Hudson attempted to stop three snowmobiles operating on the roadway. One snowmobile refused to stop but the CO was able to find out who he was from his buddies. The CO met with Sgt. Ron Kimmerly at the subject's residence and attempted to speak with the subject. The subject shut off the lights and lay on the couch and would not answer the door. Warrants are being sought for flee and elude, operate on roadway, and operate while suspended.

While on a late night patrol, CO Phil Hudson began following a snowmobile operating on the roadway. Before the CO could activate his emergency lights, the snowmobile sped off into a field. The CO was familiar with the location and intercepted the operator before he could get out of the field and back onto the road. Enforcement action was taken for operating on the roadway and trespassing.

COs Chad Foerster, Nick Atkin, and Sgt. Ron Kimmerly assisted Bay County Sheriff's deputies with the recovery of a body of a 16 year old boy that was found frozen on the Saginaw River.

COs Robert Hobkirk and Scott Brown located a pickup truck in the Minden State Game Area without any sign of hunting or trapping gear. A chain saw and sawdust was found in the bed of the pickup truck. CO's Hobkirk and Brown hiked 2 ½ miles through the snow, following footprints, and eventually located the occupants of the vehicle. It was a group of 12 boy scouts with their scout leader working on their merit badges.

CO Holly Pennoni assisted local authorities with locating a subject who fled the scene of an armed robbery at a local Auburn insurance agency.

CO Jason Smith contacted a group of anglers who were ice fishing on BeeCroit Lake in Tuscola County. Several tip-ups without names were located, along with other fishing violations and minors in possession of alcohol. Enforcement action was taken.

While checking an ice shanty in the Lexington Harbor, CO Seth Rhodea found an angler inside the shanty who was in possession of marijuana. Enforcement was taken.

CO Seth Rhodea was checking snowmobiles at a trailhead in Sanilac County when he found a subject who had affixed his unused combination deer license on his and his wife's snowmobiles as their trail permit stickers. Tickets were written for those violations as well as one of the sleds being unregistered.

CO Joshua Wright was checking anglers when he came across a vehicle stopped in the middle of the road during high winds, blowing snow, and low visibility. The operator, who had consumed a fifth of liquor, was highly intoxicated and failed a sobriety test. CO Wright lodged the subject in the county jail and had the vehicle towed from the scene.

DISTRICT 7

CO Steve Mooney contacted several anglers fishing on a local lake in Van Buren County. One of the anglers was in possession of 96 bluegills and another angler possessed 12 bluegills over the limit.

CO Ken Cerny responded to a trespass complaint that occurred the day prior. CO Cerny met with the complainant and was given a photo the complainant had taken of the trespasser. The trespasser was coyote hunting at the time the photo was taken. Using information attained from the complainant and the photo, CO Cerny was able to track down and contact the subject.

CO Greg Patten investigated a complaint of a subject who poached a wild turkey during the firearm deer season and also tagged a buck with an apprentice combination tag belonging to the subject's daughter. CO Patten was able to recover wild turkey feathers and a set of antlers with a junior combination tag. When interviewed, the subject confessed to the violations. CO Patten will be seeking warrants for the illegal taking of a wild turkey and a deer tagging violation.

CO Gary Raak investigated a complaint of someone fishing with too many tip-ups on a Barry County Lake. CO Raak located a total of six lines with no anglers in attendance. He followed tracks to a nearby home and contacted the resident, who claimed he was fishing with two others who had gone to the store and would return shortly. CO Raak drove around to the home, hoping to locate the missing anglers. He located the two anglers but discovered the first person he contacted was now missing. CO Raak began further computer checks. An alert dispatch supervisor ran additional computer checks and discovered CO Raak's missing angler was wanted on a \$32,000 non-payment of child support warrant. Further checking located a digital image of the subject which CO Raak identified and will use in a prosecution for obtaining false documents, as the license and ID were issued in an alias name. The remaining subjects were ticketed for fishing with unattended lines.

CO Chris Holmes was busy with snowmobile activity along the Kal-Haven Trail, ticketing three snowmobiles for careless operation when failing to stop for signs before crossing roads.

CO Chris Holmes conducted a taxidermist inspection on an unlicensed taxidermist in Kalamazoo County with COs Jeff Goss and Jeff Rabbers. While at the business, they discovered the operation was unlicensed and various records violations were identified. Enforcement action was taken. COs are now investigating hunters for violations

including turkeys taken without licenses, loaned licenses, furbearers taken without licenses and deer tags which were not validated.

COs Jeff Rabbers, Chris Holmes and Sgt. John Jurcich attempted to locate two subjects in Battle Creek who were wanted on warrants for illegally killing deer. They discovered the subjects had recently been evicted from the house where CO Rabbers had conducted a search warrant in November and the search continues for the subjects. While at the residence, CO Rabbers observed a deer carcass hanging in the yard of the next door neighbor. A knock on the door and brief interview lead to the discovery that the fawn deer was shot by the owner of the home in November and that he was still in possession of his only license, an unvalidated firearm kill tag. Further investigation by the COs led to confessions and the gathering of evidence relating to two cases of illegally taken deer, one illegally killed turkey, and one untagged deer taken from 2006 through 2008 by the homeowner.

CO Jeff Rabbers of Barry County was invited to attend the National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF) state banquet in Big Rapids where he was announced as the 2008 recipient of the NWTF Michigan Officer of the Year Award. Many COs attended this banquet to honor CO Rabbers for his efforts, and he will be attending the national convention in February as their guest.

DISTRICT 8

CO Rich Nickols received a disposition on an illegally taken deer case from the early antlerless season where a subject shot an antlered deer. The subject was found guilty and ordered to pay \$1640 in fines, costs, and restitution.

CO Daniel Prince reports that the case from last fall where a subject illegally shot a deer with a crossbow at night with night vision equipment and a laser sight was found guilty. The subject paid over \$2000 in fines, costs and restitution, his hunting privileges were revoked through 2012, and all equipment used in the poaching incident was forfeited to the state.

CO Shane Webster received a complaint that a subject illegally killed a deer in January and trespassed on his neighbor's property to retrieve the dead animal. During the investigation CO Webster found a 20 gauge shell casing, fresh blood, deer hair, human foot tracks, and tire tracks. CO Webster and Sgt. Troy Bahlau interviewed a subject who confessed to shooting the deer. The subject led the COs to the deer meat which had already been cut up and was hidden in a hay loft behind several bales of hay. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jason J. Smith received a complaint that six tip-ups had been left out overnight by a lake resident. CO Smith located the tip-ups which had "NONYA" written on them instead of the name and address of the user. When CO Smith interviewed the owner of the tip-ups, he stated that "NONYA" meant NONYA business. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brad Brewer contacted a subject fishing in his ice shanty after dark with too many lines and no fishing license. When CO Brewer asked the subject about his license the subject stated that he left it on his dresser. CO Brewer's investigation revealed that the subject had not bought a license since 2002. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Peter Purdy, Brad Brewer, and Kyle Bader worked an ice festival where they located three subjects who were riding an ORV and were not wearing helmets. Further investigation revealed the ORV was unregistered. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 9

CO Mark Papineau checked several anglers ice fishing, many of whom were surprised to see a conservation officer. Four subjects he contacted were fishing without a license. One of them was a convicted felon with warrants out of Shiawassee County. CO Papineau transported the subject to the Shiawassee County line and turned him over to a sheriff's deputy.

COs Linda Scheidler and Mark Papineau, along with Sgt. Tom Wanless, conducted a taxidermy inspection where several sets of antlers were seized due to the reported kill date being before the license was purchased. The taxidermist also had two unsealed bear capes. The COs, with assistance from CO Ben Lasher, are following up on the various cases. To date the COs have interviewed several subjects and have received confessions that the bear was not sealed. They also located two deer that were shot before licenses were purchased. Interviews resulted in full confessions being obtained. Warrant requests will be submitted to the local prosecutor.

CO Linda Scheidler received a complaint of subjects feeding deer in their back yard. The homeowners admitted to feeding the "wildlife". CO Scheidler informed them of the violations and offered suggestions on how to feed the wildlife without feeding the deer. A few days later, she received a second complaint on the same residence. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ron Pinson, while at the Lake St. Clair access site, issued a ticket to a subject for an expired registration on a snowmobile. A short time later, while checking activity at St. Johns Marsh, the CO contacted two snowmobile operators in a closed area and one of them was the same subject the CO had just issued a ticket to for expired registration.

CO Ken Kovach is seeking a two count warrant on a subject for shooting two deer then purchasing the licenses. This wraps up an investigation that CO Kovach started in early November.

CO Mark Ennett responded to a complaint of people cutting firewood at the Pointe Aux Peaux State Game Area. Also responding were Sgt. Arthur Green and COs Dan Walzak and Jonathan Sklba. CO Ennett quickly located the subjects exiting the woods with a load of cut firewood. They already had a full pick-up truck load, and were adding to it. The subject admitted to not having a permit, and CO Ennett issued two tickets:

one for removing firewood from state land without a permit, and one for operating a motor vehicle in a state game area. The subject also had three warrants totaling over \$12,000 for various civil infractions, and his driver's license was suspended indefinitely. He was advised and released on the warrants.

CO Jonathan Sklba contacted minors operating an ORV on Brest Bay. The 12 year olds were riding double on a machine designed for one rider, neither subject was wearing a helmet or eye protection and there was no adult supervision. CO Sklba contacted the parents and the father stated that he always allows his son to ride the ORV and admitted he operates on the roadway to get to the frozen bay. CO Sklba advised them of all of the violations and issued a ticket for allowing a minor to operate the ORV unsupervised.

While checking small game hunters at Pointe Mouillee State Game Area, CO Dan Walzak encountered hunters using lead shot shells which are prohibited in the game area. CO Walzak asked the hunters if they had seen any of the posted signs concerning the regulation and both hunters responded that they had seen several of the signs. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ben Shively responded to a complaint of a subject posting another's property with no trespassing signs. CO Shively contacted the complainant and received the name of the subject. A check of the license system revealed that he had purchased an archery license and a combination license. CO Shively contacted the subject about the posting of the complainant's property. The subject agreed to remove the signs. When questioned about the hunting licenses, he stated that he hadn't hunted in ten years and was not aware that he could not purchase multiple licenses. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ben Shively checked a small lake on state land and contacted a husband and wife who were ice fishing. CO Shively checked their catch for the day and found the wife had 16 bluegills in her sled and the husband had 37 bluegills, 12 over the limit. Running the subject through LEIN also showed two warrants for assault and a probation violation. After CO Shively advised him of the warrant and released the subject (who was outside of pick up range) the subject advised CO Shively that there was a deer carcass dumped down the road with the hunting license still attached. CO Shively located the carcass which had an un-validated license attached to the leg. Running the tag led CO Shively to a subject who confessed to shooting the deer. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ben Shively contacted two trappers who were returning from checking their trap line. The trappers were in possession of two colony traps, one conibear, and one snare, all untagged. CO Shively then found that they were also trapping an area where CO Brandon Kieft had received a complaint from the MSP of a deer being caught in a snare. The troopers were able to release the deer but the snare was not tagged. CO Kieft walked the property and found a dozen snares, all of which were untagged. CO

Shively issued a ticket to the trappers for using and/or possessing untagged traps and snares.